

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

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DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JTRATTNER:SP
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S/S;JETHYDEN

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS -- TRATTNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SOPN (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING, AUGUST 8, 1977

NO. 21

1. REPORTED PLO CHANGE ON 242: PER OUR EARLIER FONECON, I MERELY NOTED THAT SECRETARY WAS SEEKING CLARIFICATION DURING CURRENT TRIP FROM VARIOUS ARAB LEADERS WITH WHOM HE MEETS, THAT BEFORE HE LEFT WASHINGTON SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD BE DOING THIS, AND THAT ANY OTHER WORD ON THIS WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM TRAVELING PARTY. BY TIME YOU READ THIS CABLE, BELIEVE WE WILL HAVE TALKED BY PHONE ON VARIOUS OTHER ASPECTS THIS STORY.

2. PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS: I SAID NEGOTIATIONS WOULD RESUME IN PANAMA CITY, PRECISE TIME AND LOCATION NOT YET SPECIFIED, AND THAT I UNABLE SPECULATE WHEN THEY WOULD
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FINISH OR WHAT THEY MIGHT PRODUCE. (AS YOU MAY KNOW, JUST ABOUT EVERYONE IS WRITING THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE ESSENTIALLY COMPLETE, AND AGREEMENT IS IN HAND AND ABOUT TO BE ANNOUNCED.)

3. IRANIAN-U.S. ENERGY TALKS: I SAID THE ENERGY COMMITTEE OF THE U.S.-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION IS MEETING HERE

AUGUST 8 AND 9; IN ADDITION TO GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON COOPERATION IN ENERGY FIELD, WE WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSING PROPOSED BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR NUCLEAR COOPERATION WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS.

4. I ANNOUNCED SECRETARY WOULD RETURN HERE SATURDAY EVENING INSTEAD FRIDAY, DUE TO ANNOUNCED RETURN STOPS IN ARAB CAPITALS AND TO PLANNED MEETINGS IN LONDON, INCLUDING SCHEDULED MEETING WITH NYERERE. CHRISTOPHER

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